

1912 Dates J-BK

1866 Prince Von

(1815-1898) BISMARCK, Karl Otto Eduard Leopold

Born at Schönhausen. He early entered political life, being always a strong imperialist. The idea of Germany's freedom from foreign control and union under the Crown of Prussia originated with Bismarck, but his sincerity and judgment were doubted at first.

In 1862 he was made Minister of Foreign Affairs. In 1864 he won general approbation by the conquest and annexation of SCHALESWIG. Next he brought Austria to terms in 1866, in consequence of which his long

cherished plan was made possible, & the establishment of a German Confederation with Prussia at its head made him the idol of his compatriots.

Exasperated by his treatment, Napoleon III declared war and advanced on Berlin. To the surprise of all Europe, the French were egotistically driven back. The threatening powers of France and Austria helped, the German Empire restored under a Hohenzollern King. Bismarck was installed a Chancellor. He reorganized & built up the empire. After numerous quarrels with William II, he resigned (3/20/1890). He was the greatest European statesman of the 19th Century.